

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Maeda et al.
Filed: Concurrently Herewith
For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY AND NICKEL-METAL HYDRIDE
RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

March 11, 2004

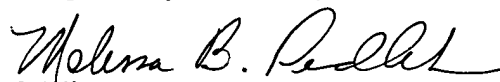
Mail Stop Patent Applications
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
CITATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449. It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

Any foreign patents or non-patent literature documents items are attached, except those that were supplied in, or cited by the Office during prosecution of, parent Application No. 09/631,491, filed August 3, 2000. Since the benefit of this application was claimed under 35 U.S.C. 120, no copies need to be furnished in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d); however, copies will be furnished on request.

Respectfully submitted,


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Grace R. Rippy

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 04/2003) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>2</u>				Attorney Docket Number <u>035576/275466</u>	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US-4,004,943	01/25/1977	Boter	
	2	US-4,126,242	11/21/1978	Yajima et al.	
	3	US-4,347,082	08/31/1982	Osumi et al.	
	4	US-4,744,946	05/17/1988	Sasai et al.	
	5	US-6,068,713	05/30/2000	Yamaguchi et al.	
	6	US-6,106,768	08/22/2000	Lee et al.	
	7	US-6,248,475	06/19/2001	Hayshida et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached
	8	EP 0 386 305 A	09/12/1990	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co.		
	9	FR 2 753 991 A	04/03/1998	Centre Nat Rech Scient		
	10	EP 0 790 323 A	08/20/1997	Santoku Metal Ind		
	11	JP 56-169746	12/26/1981	Osumi et al.		
	12	JP 07-057769 A	03/03/1995	Shindo et al.		
	13	JP 7-56803	06/14/1995	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co. Ltd.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO (Revised 04/2003) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
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				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	
Sheet	2	of	2	035576/275466	

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s) , volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	English Language Translation Attached
	14	A. Visintin et al, "Investigation of a New Modified AB ₅ Type Alloy for Nickel-Metal Hydride Batteries," Proc. 11th World Energy Conf. (1996), pp. 1983-1988, Int. Assoc. Hydrogen Energy, Coral Gables Fla. US XP000964596	
	15	Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 010, no 117 (E-400), 2 May 1986 & JP 60 250557 A (Matsushita Denki Sangyo KK), 11 December 1985	
	16	Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 018, no. 468 (C-1244), 31 August 1994 & JP 06 145851 A (Agency of Ind Science & Technol; Others: 01), 27 May 1994	
	17	Translation of JP 60-250557 provided by the PTO in parent case 09/631,491, filed August 3, 2000	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.